

that Members spend too much time arguing and bickering. There clearly has been too much partisan wrangling in recent years, but people often don't understand that Congress is designed to allow contentious debates on the major policy issues of the day. In a country as large and remarkably diverse as ours, one of the key roles of Congress is to act as a sounding board for all the diverse groups in our society. Allowing all sides a chance to be heard as we try to reach a consensus on a long list of difficult issues means that the debate may at times be contentious, but it also helps to keep our country from coming apart at the seams.

Conclusion: Public misconceptions about Congress aren't simply of interest to academics. In our representative democracy they have a major impact on how well our system of government works. They lead to public feelings of mistrust and alienation, and give rise to cynicism about government in general and Congress in particular. Restoring confidence in government requires both improved performance by government and improved understanding of its role.

Congress is a complex, important, and fascinating institution, with both strengths and weaknesses. I am impressed almost daily with the way it tackles difficult problems and acts as a national forum in developing a consensus. I am particularly impressed with the role it has played in creating and maintaining a nation more free than any other. Ensuring that the American people have an accurate understanding of Congress' role in national governance and its strengths and weaknesses is one of our most important challenges in the years ahead. We need to get Americans to think twice about the role of Congress and its impact on their lives.

FOREST HEALTH IN COLORADO

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 4, 1998

Mr. BOB SCHAFFER of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, the health of the national forests in Colorado and the economies of rural communities are at risk from current national forest management practices. Severe threats from fire, insects and disease endanger the forests and the health, happiness and well-being of the citizens of Colorado. While properly utilized timber harvests can effectively contribute to restoring the health of forests, timber programs on the national forests have been almost completely eliminated in Colorado.

Many scientists believe that Colorado has more, and older, trees now than at any time in recorded history. The health and capacity of Colorado's forests is directly related to the volume of timber harvested. Without proper management, thinning or prescribed burns, timber inventory accumulates to the point where growth is impeded, and stands become susceptible to wildfires, beetle infestations and disease. The proper harvests add valuable and essential resources to the economy while reducing the potential for catastrophic fires by eliminating dangerously high levels of fuels.

Mr. Speaker, the motivation of the Forest Service these days seems to be driven not by what is best for the forest, but by what group protests the loudest. Meanwhile, timber budgets and timber sales decline and administrative costs escalate. Directing funds away from timber budgets negates forest management

plans, undermines public input into the process, and harms the forest ecosystem. Such impediments to the Forest Service mission have resulted in a de facto policy of reduced use, increased risk of wildfires, and deteriorating forest health.

Better national forest timber management programs are essential to the proper stewardship of the National forests in Colorado and to the health, condition and structure of the environment. Accordingly, I have urged my colleagues in the Colorado delegation and the Chief of the U.S. Forest Service to support proper timber management tools to ensure better forest health in Colorado.

Mr. Speaker, the Colorado State Senate has spent considerable time evaluating the impact of our National forests on the Colorado economy. I hereby submit for the record the following Resolution adopted by the Colorado State Legislature.

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 97-26—ADOPTED BY THE COLORADO LEGISLATURE, 1997

CONCERNING THE SUPPORT OF PROPER TIMBER HARVESTING AS A MANAGEMENT TOOL TO ENSURE BETTER FOREST HEALTH IN COLORADO.

WHEREAS, The health of the national forests in Colorado and the economies of rural communities are at risk of current national forest management practices; and

WHEREAS, The threat of fire, insects, and disease endangers the health, happiness, and well-being of the citizens of Colorado; and

WHEREAS, Timber programs on national forests have been almost completely eliminated in Colorado; and

WHEREAS, The proper uses of timber harvest as a management tool can effectively contribute to restoring the health of forests; and

WHEREAS, The proper use of timber harvest as a management tool can help reduce dangerously high levels of fuels resulting in the potential of catastrophic fires; and

WHEREAS, Prescribed fires, used without the complement of timber harvest, often destroy economically viable, renewable resources and violate air quality and visibility standards; and

WHEREAS, Better national forest timber programs are essential for proper stewardship of Colorado's forests and improvement of the health, condition, and structure of the natural environment; now, therefore.

Be it Resolved by the Senate of the Sixty-first General Assembly of the State of Colorado, the House of Representatives concurring herein; That we, the members of the General Assembly, respectfully urge that:

(1) The United States Forest Service Chief and the Colorado Congressional delegation support proper timber harvesting as a management tool to ensure better forest health in Colorado;

(2) The Colorado Congressional delegation support the Rocky Mountain Regional Forester's strategy to reverse the decline of forest management programs and to reach a more effective program level by the year 2000; and

(3) The Colorado Congressional delegation support Congressional efforts to improve efficiency, effectiveness, and accountability of national forest management.

Be it further resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to each member of Colorado's Congressional delegation, the Chief of the United States Forest Service, and the Rocky Mountain Regional Forester.

Mr. Speaker, I commend the Colorado Senate for adopting Senate Joint Resolution 97-26 in support of proper timber management to ensure better forest health in our state. State

and local input into the management of our public lands is essential to maintain a healthy forest and thriving economy. I fully support their recommendations for better state and local involvement in the planning and implementation of forest policies. This resolution, sponsored by Colorado State Senator Don Ament, enjoys very strong support in Colorado. I thank Senator Ament, and his colleagues for their efforts and dedication to the state. I assure my former colleagues in the Colorado General Assembly that I will do everything in my power to improve efficiency, effectiveness, and accountability in the management of our national forests.

In Congress my colleagues and I on the House Resources Committee and the Subcommittee on Forests and Forests Health are working to ensure that the Forest Service and the Administration hear Colorado's message loud and clear. On February 25th, the subcommittee held oversight hearings on the Administration's roadless area moratorium. There, county commissioners, forestry experts and Forest Service officials testified on the issue of access to our public lands for management, resources and recreation. The Forest Service's new "no access" policy, by conservative estimates, will lock up at least 34 million acres of public lands. Once again, the federal government has proposed a one-size-fits-all solution in contravention of forest planning practices that formerly relied on local participation and public input.

On March 26th, we will hold an extensive hearing before the House Resources, Budget and Appropriations Committees into the operations, budgeting and management of the Forest Service. There, with my colleagues, I intend to examine better management alternatives and push for positive change. Proper management of our forests can provide habitat for our wildlife as well as recreational and economic resources for our people.

Colorado Senate Joint Resolution 97-26 serves as a proper basis for congressional oversight. I commend the document to my colleagues and urge their full attention to the measure.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, I wish to recognize Colorado State Senators, Ken Arnold, Jim Congrove, Dick Mutzebaugh, Maryanne Tebedo, and Dave Wattenberg, who joined Senator Don Ament in sponsoring and promoting Colorado Senate Joint Resolution 98-26.

Thank you Mr. Speaker.

TRIBUTE TO JUDY MELLO

HON. NITA M. LOWEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 4, 1998

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, we have all come to accept that we now live in a global society. One remarkable woman who recognized this fact long ago is Judy Mello. I wish to pay tribute to her today.

Since 1994, Judy has served as President and CEO of World Learning, an organization committed to helping develop the knowledge, skills, and attitudes needed to contribute effectively to international understanding and global development. World Learning currently runs over 220 programs in 120 countries, providing direct program services to more than 300,000

individuals. World Learning runs a School for International Training and important cultural exchange programs.

Prior to her appointment at World Learning, Judy made her mark in the world of international banking. She ran her own firm, J.H. Mello Company, which provided financial advisory services to clients, and subsequently served as Managing Director of Cambridge International Partners, an investment banking firm in New York City. Formerly, she polished her international credentials and leadership skills at the International Division of Citibank, Marine Midland Bank, First Women's Bank, New York, Lehman Brothers, and American Express.

Throughout her career, Judy has worked to help prepare America to compete in the global marketplace. The list of her commitments is long and distinguished: she served on the Board of World Education; the Board of Directors of the New York Business Development Corporation; the advisory board of the Nitze School of Advanced International Studies; the Johns Hopkins University Bologna Center; and the Board of Overseers of the NYU Graduate School of Business Administration.

I am also extremely grateful for her efforts to foster the careers of aspiring women. She is a founding member and past director of the Committee of 200, an organization of women CEOs, and a founding member and co-chair of the Capital Circle, which mobilizes capital for women-run businesses. She is a member of the Women's Forum, and a past member of the Women's Economic Round Table. Her dedication to the advancement of women in the corporate world is paving the way for the women CEOs of today and tomorrow.

I am delighted that the National Association of Breast Cancer Organizations will honor Judy Mello next week with their distinguished "Celebrate Life Award" for exhibiting the willingness to take control of her life, and the courage to determine her own destiny. I am so proud of her and I am hopeful her example serves as inspiration to all women—and all Americans.

SIXTH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH CELEBRATES 145TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 4, 1998

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the Sixth Presbyterian Church on the occasion of its 145th Anniversary of splendid spiritual and civic guidance.

Dr. Mason Noble came to the District of Columbia from New York City in 1852. He canvassed a neighborhood in southwest Washington with the hope of starting a Presbyterian congregation. The first few months, the group met in the home of William and Amanda Thompson. On January 23, 1853 at a meeting in Island Hall Dr. Noble, with 32 people, voted to organize Sixth Presbyterian Church.

Land and a building were purchased at Sixth and C Streets, SW and the congregation celebrated its first Eucharist on February 14, 1853. Dr. Noble served as pastor to the growing congregation for twenty years which is longer than any of the eighteen pastors who followed in his foot steps. The congregation

worshiped in its first building for more than 65 years. As the city expanded to the northwest, the members voted to move to Sixteenth and Kennedy Streets, NW. The Chapel, now the Choir, Primary and Nursery rooms, was dedicated on Sunday, September 23, 1917. The seventh pastor, Reverend Douglas P. Birnie, with the tireless efforts of the elders and trustees, guided the Church through the difficult period of World War I. Ground was broken for the present sanctuary on January 2, 1929 during the Great Depression. The first worship service was held in the new sanctuary on Thanksgiving Day, November 28, 1929. The building was dedicated on Sunday, March 9, 1930. The eleventh pastor, The Reverend Godfrey Chobot, D.D. guided the members through this building phase. Shortly after the dedication, the Washington Board of Trade's Committee on Municipal Art awarded the congregation its Award in Architecture and acclaimed the sanctuary as the finest example of French Norman Architecture in the city. The carillon bells were dedicated as Ground was broken for the third phase of the present edifice on February 8, 1952. The Earl Franklin Fowler Memorial Hall or Fellowship Hall with church offices, classrooms and the Church Parlor on the lower level was dedicated on January 23, 1953—exactly one hundred years after the church was organized. On November 12, 1951, Dr. Fowler, the thirteenth pastor, died in the pulpit just before the realization of his and the congregation's dream for the new building.

Twenty-four years ago Pastor Donald D.M. Jones and a group of elders decided to open the doors of this Church to all who would come. The Church continues to grow as a multi-cultural congregation, with members from thirteen countries, and celebrates this 145th Anniversary as a beacon of light in the nation's capital.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that this body join me in congratulating this remarkable institution on the occasion of this anniversary knowing that its future will be as bright as its past.

CELEBRATING THE 100TH ANNI- VERSARY OF THE MEDICAL LI- BRARY ASSOCIATION

HON. JOHN EDWARD PORTER

OF ILLINOIS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 4, 1998

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to recognize the 100th anniversary of the Medical Library Association (MLA). Headquartered in Chicago, Illinois, MLA was founded on May 2nd, 1898 by four librarians and four physicians to "encourage the improvement and increase of public medical libraries."

A century later, MLA has grown into a professional organization which represents more than 1,200 institutions and 3,800 individuals involved in the management and dissemination of biomedical information to support patient care, education and research. Whether working in hospitals, academic health centers, or libraries, MLA members play a vital role in improving the quality of health care throughout the nation.

Physicians have consistently reported positive changes in their diagnosis, choice of tests

and drugs, length of hospital stays and advice given to patients as a result of information provided by medical librarians. The ability of medical librarians to quickly maneuver through the wealth of health care information on the Internet, and to identify the most credible, relevant and appropriate sources of information for each request has become a critical competent of today's health care system.

In keeping with its commitment to improve and expand the health information professions, MLA assists librarians in the exchange of health sciences publications, offers continuing education seminars and scholarships, and continuously develops leadership programs designed to meet the needs of the medical library community. In addition, MLA places a high priority on keeping its members up-to-date with respect to the latest breakthroughs in health care information technology.

As we celebrate MLA's centennial anniversary, I believe it is also important to recognize the longstanding partnership between MLA and the National Library of Medicine (NLM) at the National Institutes of Health. As chairman of the Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, I am very familiar with the extraordinary work being done at the NLM to improve access to health care information. By using NLM's state-of-the-art medical data bases and telemedicine project sites, medical librarians are able to provide doctors and patients, often in underserved rural and urban areas, with the most current and accurate health-related information.

Mr. Speaker, as we approach the 21st Century, it is clear that the telecommunications advances of the Information Age will continue to revolutionize the role that medical librarians play in the delivery of health care in America. It is with an eye to the future, that I invite all Members to join me in celebrating the past 100 years of the Medical Library Association during their 1998 Centennial Celebration.

CALEA IMPLEMENTATION AMENDMENTS OF 1998

HON. BOB BARR

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 4, 1998

Mr. BARR. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing a bill to amend and clarify portions of the Communications Assistance for Law Enforcement Act (CALEA), enacted into law on October 25, 1994 (PL 103-414). The implementation of this legislation—intended by Congress to preserve the status quo of law enforcement's electronic surveillance authority and to define the telecommunications industry's duty to assist law enforcement in the digital age—is seriously behind schedule. CALEA's effective date is October 25, 1998 and the assistance capability and capacity requirements set forth in the law will not be available.

The purpose of CALEA is to preserve the government's ability to conduct electronic surveillance in the face of changing communications technology, to protect the privacy of customer communications, and to avoid impeding the development of new telecommunications services and technology. In CALEA, Congress placed an affirmative requirement on telecommunications carriers to modify and design